

Lady Knight: Book 4 of the Protector of the Small Quartet

By Tamora Pierce



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Kel has finally achieved her lifelong dream of being a knight. But it's not turning out as she imagined at all. She is torn between a duty she has sworn to uphold and a quest that she feels could turn the tide of war. . . .

"Unrelentingly realistic in its depiction of the horrors of war... Pierce provides exquisite details of the weaponry, topography, and culture of her world, and her control of a voluminous cast of characters is masterful."

-VOYA

From the Trade Paperback edition.



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Sales Rank: #33213 in eBooks
Published on: 2007-12-18
Released on: 2007-12-18
Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In the final thrilling installment of Tamora Pierce's Protector of the Small series (*First Test, Page*, and *Squire*), our sturdy young heroine, Keladry of Mindelan (a.k.a. Kel), has finally been knighted. Never one to rest on her laurels, Kel champs at the bit, ready to tackle the horrific magic killing devices she was shown in the Chamber of the Ordeal during her knighthood initiation. The huge, insectlike machines, "made of ironcoated giants' bones, chains, pulleys, dagger-fingers and -toes, and a long whiplike tail," feed on the souls of dead children and are systematically killing off the citizens and warriors of Tortall.

Thoroughly disgusted to discover that not only is she not going to be assigned a combat post, but she has been placed in charge of a refugee camp instead, Kel, in her usual noble, stoic way, swallows her disappointment and sets out being the best refugee camp commander possible. Of course, destiny has a way of sneaking up on a young woman like Kel, and soon she is fulfilling the ordeal the Chamber set out for her... and then some.

Tamora Pierce once again draws her legions of fans into her story, blending humor, pathos, exhilarating battles, and gripping drama with a very real, very appealing protagonist. It's easy to make war appear black and white, a matter of good versus evil. Pierce finds the shades of gray. (Ages 12 and older) -- Emilie Coulter

From Publishers Weekly

Older readers and followers of the Tamora Pierce series, Protector of the Small, will welcome the fourth and final installment, Lady Knight. In this compelling conclusion, Keladry of Mindelan Kel, for short realizes her dream of becoming a knight but soon discovers that her new position brings unforeseen responsibilities. (Aug)

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From School Library Journal

Grade 6-9-In this fourth and final book in the series, Kel is now 18 and her knighthood is guaranteed after she passes her final test as a squire, which involves facing her fears and overcoming them while in the Chamber of the Ordeal. During the Ordeal, she has a vision of an ugly little man directing monsterlike, metal machines to kill children and use their souls to fuel them. She hears a voice telling her that her task is to find this "Nothing Man" and stop the killing, and she becomes determined to steal away, hunt him down, and destroy him. Orders dictate otherwise and Kel finds herself the Commander of a refugee camp for people who've lost their homes in the fighting between Tortall and neighboring Scanran. While she is away from camp, it is attacked and many refugees, mostly children, are kidnapped. She disobeys orders and rides off alone to try to save them. This meaty book has lots of fighting and challenges to Kel's authority, allowing her once again to prove that she is equal to the men. Her compassion for those weaker than herself and her strong leadership skills make her an appealing protagonist. All of the characters from the previous books are here, and Pierce neatly ties all the plot threads together in a way that should please her fans. She also provides a helpful list of characters and a glossary. This is an essential and satisfying book for anyone who enjoyed the others in the series.

Sharon Rawlins, Piscataway Public Library, NJ Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dorothy Whisler:

This Lady Knight: Book 4 of the Protector of the Small Quartet usually are reliable for you who want to be described as a successful person, why. The reason why of this Lady Knight: Book 4 of the Protector of the Small Quartet can be one of the great books you must have is usually giving you more than just simple reading food but feed an individual with information that probably will shock your preceding knowledge. This book is handy, you can bring it just about everywhere and whenever your conditions at e-book and printed kinds. Beside that this Lady Knight: Book 4 of the Protector of the Small Quartet giving you an enormous of experience like rich vocabulary, giving you test of critical thinking that we understand it useful in your day action. So, let's have it and revel in reading.

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Ana Worcester:

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